ADVENTURES IN WILDSPACE

SPELLJAMMER

TSR™

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Panosian

THE SHIP HAS NO **NAME.** IT WAS RESCUED FROM THE NEOGI, AND NEVER **PROPERLY** CHRISTENED BY ITS CREW.

CAPTAIN MEREDITH CALLS IT "CHILD," OR "LITTLE ONE". WHEN NO ONE IS LISTENING, LATE IN THE EVENING, SHE CALLS IT "DEAR HEART."

THE CREW DOES NOT USE SUCH **ENDEARMENTS** WHEN REFERRING TO THE SHIP. WHEN THEY CALL IT ANYTHING AT ALL.

THE GEAS

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IT IS NOT A HAPPY SHIP.

YES, CHILD. I SHAN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE THAT LONG AGAIN.

EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT, NOW...

THE WOMAN STILL PRATTLES ON.

KIRSTIG, WHAT'S WRONG?

MEREDITH HAS SEPARATED ME FROM THE MOTHER OF SONGS. SHE MADE IT SO I CANNOT REACH THE MOTHER, CANNOT REGAIN MY SPELLS.

THE CAPTAIN DID SAY THAT THE GODDESS COULD NOT BE FELT EVERYWHERE. PERHAPS SOON WE WILL REACH A PLACE WHERE THE MOTHER'S SONG IS KNOWN.

SO SHE SAYS, HANNOUS, WHAT IF SHE IS UP TO SOMETHING, SOMETHING DANGEROUS? CAN WE REALLY TRUST HER?

UH-OH!

I WONDER IF MEREDITH KNOWS HOW KIRSTIG FEELS ABOUT HER... EH?

SUR...

≠PRIFFF?≠

QUIET, TEMBER! I DON'T WANT KIRSTIG OR MEREDITH TO KNOW WE'RE LISTENING.

≠MPHDIG UR MUREHDEPH?≠

YOU'RE SPYING!

YOU CATCH ON QUICK, KID.

IT SEEMS THAT OUR SONG-PRIEST IS LESS THAN PLEASED WITH CAPTAIN MEREDITH.

MAKES ME WONDER HOW MUCH WE KNOW ABOUT HER OR HER FRIENDS.

...OR HOW MUCH WE KNOW ABOUT EACH OTHER?

I MEAN, MEREDITH LOOKS GOOD, BUT SHE'S GOT A GRANDDAUGHTER MY AGE. I MEAN, THE AGE I WAS...

YEAH, I THOUGHT SHE WAS FIRST-RATE, WHEN I FIRST MET HER, NOW I JUST DON'T KNOW.

YES, MY CHILD...

SHHH! SHE'S TALKING AGAIN...

BUT NOT TO US...

A STORY? WELL, IF YOU'LL BE GOOD, I'LL TELL YOU A STORY.

AT TIMES LIKE THIS I WISH PAX WERE HERE...

THIS STORY IS FROM LONG AGO. THE DRAGONS HAD NOT YET LEFT ANSALON, AND WATERDEEP WAS BUT A FISHING VILLAGE.

ON THE GREAT ROCK OF BRAL THERE LIVED A MIGHTY PIRATE QUEEN. SHE WAS WISE AND BEAUTIFUL, AND WAS CALLED...

...LADY CHAOS, QUEEN OF THE STELLAR MAIN, I OFFER YOU A TOAST!

...AND I OFFER ONE TO MY FAITHFUL AIDE-DE-CAMP, CHANCEL, MOST NOBLE AND WISE OF THE GIFF.

AND SUCH A HAUL, FOR A LEGAL OPERATION! A SIMPLE MESSAGE TO BE DELIVERED TO GREYHAWK ON OERTH! AND WITH PAYMENT IN ADVANCE "TO COVER EXPENSES."

...AND THE PROVISO THAT THE MESSAGE IS DELIVERED ON TIME, MILADY.

HELLS! WE COULD BUY THAT BLASTED PLANET WITH THIS MUCH IN FIRE RUBIES.

YOU EXAGGERATE, MILADY. A LARGE ASTEROID AT BEST, IN A COMFORTABLE ORBIT.

BUT I MUST AGREE THAT OUR EMPLOYER WAS A FOOL WITH HIS MONEY, BEST PARTED.

AYE, AND BEST PARTED TO *US.*

ONE LAST TOAST, THEN, TO ALL THE *PIGEONS* THAT MAKE WILDSPACE SO--

--WORTH-WHI ...?

CHEOOOW!

CRISH!

WHO *DARES* INTERRUPT LADY CHAOS, QUEEN OF THE...

MILADY, PLEASE!

BEFORE YOU CHARGE INTO THE FRAY, LOOK AT THE *OTHER* COMBATANTS, FOR ONCE!

YOU *DARE* TO FOUL THIS ROOM WITH YOUR STENCH, *ABOMINATION?*

A *TRUE* EYE TYRANT DOES NOT FEAR MONGRELS SUCH AS YOU, INFIDEL!

BEHOLDERS, MILADY. TWO *DIFFERENT* RACES OF BEHOLDERS, TO BE PRECISE.

AND EACH RACE *HATES* ALL OTHERS ON SIGHT!

IT DOESN'T *MATTER*, CHANCEL!

THEY CAN BLOW EACH OTHER'S *EYES* OFF FOR ALL I *CARE*...

...BUT IN SOMEONE *ELSE'S* FAVORITE BAR.

OK, BOYS, LET'S MOVE IT ELSEWHERE, OK?

WHA??

THE LITTLE *HUMAN* THINKS HERSELF BETTER THAN THE *TRUE-FORM* PEOPLE! WITNESS, ABOMINATION, AS HER ASHES SCATTER ON THE SPACE WINDS, FOR YOU WILL BE *NEXT!*

DIMENSION...

...DOOR!

CHEOW!

WHERE DID THE HELLSPAWN *GO!*

BEHIND YOU, TUBBY, SO I CAN CAST A...

FEEBLE MIND!

GAAAAHHHH!

DUH-DIE! DUH-DIE! I DON' FEEL SO GOOD... OOOGGG...

IF YOU PRESUME MY THANKS IN RIDDING ME OF THIS *MONSTROSITY,* YOU ARE ILL-*ADVISED,* MAGELING...

FOR YOU WILL FIND THAT A *TRUE* BEHOLDER GRANTS LESSER BEINGS *NO* MERCY...

...ONLY A QUICK AND PAINLESS DEATH!

CHANCEL!

NOW!

SIGH

YES, MILADY.

URK! MY EYES!

FWASH

WHERE IS SHE? WHERE DID SHE...

THE HUMAN BOLTED FOR THE DOOR, MIGHTY *TRUE-BLOOD*. SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT HEADING FOR THE *PRINCE'S PALACE* TO ESCAPE YOUR WRATH!

SHE HIDES IN *VAIN*, FOR I SHALL MAKE HER *PAY!*

MY THANKS, WARRIOR. MAY YOUR DEATH BE *QUICK* AND *PAINLESS!*

AND A PLEASANT DAY TO YOU *TOO*, SIR...

YOU CAN COME *OUT* NOW, CAPTAIN.

RING OF *INVISIBILITY!* NEVER WITHOUT ONE!

IF THE BEHOLDER HAD BEEN THINKING PROPERLY, HE WOULD HAVE *FOUND* YOU. *MUST* YOU ALWAYS TAKE SUCH RISKS?

WHAT WOULD LIFE *BE* WITHOUT RISK, CHANCEL?

A GREAT DEAL *QUIETER*, MILADY, A GREAT DEAL *QUIETER*.

LET'S ROLL OLD *SLIMY* HERE INTO THE CORNER AND TAKE THE EVENING AIR.

YOU SHOULD NOT BE SO *FREE* WITH YOUR MONEY, MILADY.

WHAT'S MONEY *FOR*, IF NOT TO BE SPENT?

WE *COULD* PURCHASE NECESSITIES.

SUCH AS...?

MORE *SMOKE POWDER* COMES TO MIND.

SMOKE POWDER IS ONLY A NECESSITY TO THE GIFF! DO YOU THINK OF *NOTHING* BUT GAINING THIS EXPLODING POWDER?

OF COURSE I DO!

I THINK OF *USING* IT, TOO.

HERE, LAD. THAT COVERS THE DAMAGE. KEEP THE CHANGE.

EXCUSE ME! LADY CHAOS!

YOU HAILED US?

I AM *DWEZIL*, SERVANT TO KAVAROS THE WIZARD. HE'S LOOKING FOR BRAVE WARRIORS SUCH AS *YOURSELVES*. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN GREAT *TREASURE*, BE AT THE PARK IN AN HOUR.

WE ALREADY *HAVE* A JOB...

...AND ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR *NEW* OPPORTUNITIES...

TELL YOUR MASTER TO *EXPECT* US...

"...IN AN *HOUR*."

NOTHING! I THINK THIS WIZARD HAS FOUND SOME *OTHER* BRAVE WARRIORS TO PURSUE HIS PLANS.

GREYHAWK *AWAITS*, MILADY.

AH, CHANCEL, YOU REALLY *WORRY* TOO MUCH.

IT'S NOT LIKE GREYHAWK IS GOING TO *CLOSE* OR ANYTHING.

LET'S GIVE THIS KAVAROS FIVE MORE MINUTES.

FIVE MINUTES?

I FEAR I'LL NEED *MUCH* MORE.

GEAS!

CAN I =RRRGH= SAY I *TOLD* YOU SO, LADY CHAOS?

LATER, AND ONLY IF WE LIVE!

IT =URK= SEEMS TO BE SOME TYPE OF POWERFUL *ENCHANTMENT!*

AH, YOU'RE WELL-VERSED IN *MAGIC*, DEAR LADY.

I am Kavaros the Mighty! A great mage in my own world, where I have hunted the greatest monsters of my land. I have bested both Krajen and Kindori!

But now I seek a greater prey! I seek to destroy the mightiest ship the universe has ever seen...

I hunt the legendary Spelljammer!

I am mighty in power but poor in funds. I need someone to hire ship crews, using their own funds.

My assistant saw you and your gems, and recommended you.

I could steal the money from you, but that would not be sporting. So much better that you spend your money for me!

SO I LAY THIS *GEAS* UPON YOU, LADY CHAOS AND BEAST-MAN:

YOU ARE TO HIRE MEN AND WOMEN WITH YOUR OWN MONEY, TO MEET AT MY FLOATING CITADEL OF HONROS. YOU ARE TO PURSUE THIS GOAL UNTIL I AND MY FLEET *LEAVE* THE CITADEL.

UNTIL THAT TIME, YOU CANNOT *HARM* ME, NOR TELL ANY THAT YOU HAVE HAD A GEAS *PLACED* ON YOU, NOR USE MAGIC *YOURSELVES.*

THE CASTING OF MY GEAS IS *COMPLETE!* I NOW *RELEASE* YOU.

WHUMP

GRRRRRR!

CHANCEL... WAIT...

YOU ERRED IN LETTING US GO, WIZARD! NOW YOU'LL FEEL *MY* POWER...

URRRRGH!

THE BEAST-MAN SEEMS TO BE HAVING *DIFFICULTY* UNDERSTANDING, CAPTAIN. PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO INFORM HIM OF THE *FINER* POINTS OF THE ENCHANTMENT.

THUMP

WHAT... WHAT?

THE GEAS IS A POWERFUL SPELL. YOU ARE *COMPELLED* TO PERFORM THE REQUIRED ACTIONS. ACTING *AGAINST* THE GEAS CAUSES PAIN...

...AND EVEN *DEATH.*

WELL PUT, LASS. SUCCINCT AND CONCISE. YOU WILL DO *WELL* AS A HIRING AGENT. NOW GET TO WORK! YOU TOO, BEAST-MAN!

I'LL GIVE *HIM* "BEAST-MAN." GGRRRRRRR!

THIS KAVAROS IS A POWERFUL *WIZARD!*

JUST A WIZARD WITH A POWERFUL *SPELL.*

WHAT CAN WE *DO?*

WELL, WE KNOW WE CANNOT *HARM* KAVAROS, SO *THAT* PART IS WORKING.

WE SHOULD AVOID SITUATIONS WHERE WE MIGHT FIND OURSELVES COMPELLED TO FOLLOW HIS *INSTRUCTIONS.*

WITH LUCK, AND A STRONG *WILL*, WE CAN...

YOU THERE!

WHAT, *ME?*

YOU'VE GOT A SHIP?

ER, AYE, BUT IT'S AN OLD *TRADESMEN.* NOTHING FANCY.

I WANT TO *HIRE* IT. AND *YOU.* AND YOUR *CREW.*

WELL, I AIN'T *CHEAP,* LASSIE.

WILL ONE OF *THESE* DO?

TWO WOULD BE BETTER.

DONE! CITADEL OF HONROS, AS SOON AS YOU'RE REFITTED.

YES MA'M. AT *ONCE,* MA'M!

YES, I CAN *SEE* THAT WITH GOOD LUCK AND STRONG WILLPOWER, WE HAVE *NOTHING* TO WORRY ABOUT.

I *DON'T* WANT TO *HEAR* ABOUT IT.

THREE THOUSAND GOLD?

THAT'S A LITTLE STEEP.

HOGWASH.

FOR YOU, A SPECIAL PRICE. *HALF* REGULAR MARK-UP.

WELL, IF WE CAN'T AVOID *HELPING* KAVAROS...

...AND WE CAN'T WRING HIS *NECK*...

...LET'S SEE IF WE CAN AT LEAST GET *HELP*.

WELL, MAYBE *TWO*, BUT NOT THREE.

EH, WUZZAT?

HELLO?

GENTLE *GNOMES*, GOOD *ARCANE*, WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEE...

EEEEEEEEGH! EEEEEEEEGH!

I MEAN...

SHE'S *MAD!*

I THINK IT'S *STREET THEATER!*

DRUNK!

THAT IS TO *SAY*, WE HAVE BEE...

EEEEEEEEGH! EEEEEEEEGH!

I'VE SEEN THE LADY BEFORE. SHE WAS IN THE COMPANY OF THE WIZARD *KAVAROS*.

KAVAROS! THAT OLD HUMAN BIGOT!

I'D RATHER SUP WITH AN ILLITHID THAN *THAT* RACIST.

HE DOESN'T THINK *MUCH* OF US *NON-HUMANS*.

NEEED... INEEE... WE ARE IN NEEEE...

TRUE, HE DOES *NOT* THINK MUCH OF NON-HUMANS, WHEN HE THINKS OF THEM AT *ALL*. SHALL WE *DEPART*?

I NEEEE...

WE'VE BEEEEE...

GEEEEE...

WE'VE BEEN GEEEEEE...

WE'VE BEEN GEASSSED 'AND WEEEEE...

WE'VE BEEN *GEASED* AND WE NEEED YOUR *HELP!*

BLAST! HE *KNEW!*

THAT BLUE-SKINNED DECK-APE *KNEW!* BLAST ALL THE ARCANE TO HADES! THEY DO NOTHING UNLESS THERE'S A *PROFIT* IN IT!

MILADY, WOULD YOU SAY YOU WERE ACTING *STRANGELY* JUST NOW?

THAT'S AN UNDERSTATE-MENT.

SO THAT IF ANY WHO KNEW YOU WOULD IMMEDIATELY BE ALERTED TO THE FACT THAT SOMETHING WAS WRONG--

--IF WE RETURNED TO THE BAR...

NO, IF WE WENT *THERE*, I WOULD TRY TO HIRE *EVERYONE* ...

OF COURSE! I'D TRY TO HIRE *EVERYONE!* EVEN *THEY* WOULD NOTICE THAT I'M SPENDING MONEY QUICKLY, AND SOMEONE WOULD CAST A *DETECT MAGIC!*

WE'D CALL *ATTENTION* TO THE GEAS WITHOUT HAVING TO *TELL* ANYONE!

LINE UP, LADIES AND LORDS, FOR THE CHANCE OF A *LIFETIME*. ANY *NUMBER* CAN PLAY, AS LONG AS YOU HAVE A SHIP!

LATER...

MUCH LATER...

MUCH, MUCH LATER.

GROOOOAN!

I MUST SAY I UNDERESTIMATED HUMAN GREED. I THOUGHT THAT SOMEONE WOULD...

EVERYONE!

I HIRED EVERY FLAMING PIRATE, TRADER, AND SHIPMASTER IN THE BAR!

AND IT TOOK EVERY GEM I HAD!

I AM SORRY. THE ONLY SOLACE I CAN TAKE IS THAT THERE WERE NO GIFF PRESENT TONIGHT. IT WOULD BREAK MY HEART TO PART WITH MY PRECIOUS SMOKE POWDER TO HELP KAVAROS.

I WOULD FEEL LESS OF A MAN WITHOUT IT.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I SAID, THAT I WOULD HATE TO TRADE ANY OF MY SMOKE POWDER IN THIS AFFAIR. IT SERVES AS MONEY, YOU KNOW...

NO, NO, THE OTHER PART.

OH, A GIFF CARRYING POWDER IS CONSIDERED MORE MANLY THAN OTHERS WHO DO NOT. I AM VERY PROUD OF...

THAT'S IT!

YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A MAN!

WELL, NOT IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE *INSULTING* ABOUT IT!

I MEANT THAT EVEN *BEHOLDERS* CAN BE SEPARATED INTO MALE AND FEMALE, *MAN* AND *WOMAN.*

EXACTLY! WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS ALL *WRONG!*

DO WE HAVE ANY MONEY LEFT?

ALL WE HAVE LEFT IS OUR SHIP, BUT...

SELL IT!

SELL... IT?

SELL IT. WE'VE GOT SOME MORE HIRING TO DO...

WE'RE GOING TO GIVE KAVAROS *EXACTLY* WHAT HE WANTS...

"...*EXACTLY* AS HE SAID!"

LORD KAVAROS! LORD KAVAROS!

THE FIRST SHIP IS ARRIVING!

AH, *EXCELLENT!*

THEN MY LITTLE PIRATE-QUEEN HAS SERVED HER *PURPOSE!*

THESE SHIPS WILL *FIND* THE SPELLJAMMER AND DRIVE HER TOWARDS ME LIKE A DEER BEFORE THE *HEDGE-BEATERS.*

THEY WILL TAKE THE LOSSES WHILE *I* WAIT AND PREPARE THE TRAP THAT WILL DESTROY IT!

MY REPUTATION WILL BE *MADE!*

TO THE *IMAGE ENHANCER!* I MUST *GREET* OUR NEW ARRIVALS!

WELCOME TO YOU WHO ARE TO ENTER THE SERVICE OF THE GREAT AND PUISSANT *KAVAROS!*

IF YOU'RE *KAVAROS,* WE'VE A MESSAGE FOR *YOU,* AS WELL!

GREETINGS, GREAT WIZARD. I REGRET I CANNOT APPEAR IN PERSON. AS PER YOUR INSTRUCTIONS, I HAVE ENLISTED THE SERVICES OF THE **BLACK ROSE**, UNDER CAPTAIN BYRONTI.

OH GOOD, GOOD!

MASTER! **MORE** SHIPS COMING!

STAND OUT OF THE **PROJECTOR**, DWEZIL, I DON'T LOOK **NEARLY** AS IMPRESSIVE WITH **YOU** HERE.

THE **REST** OF THE FLEET SHOULD SOON ARRIVE. THEY INCLUDE...

ER, HOW **MANY** SHIPS ARE COMING, DWEZIL?

...THE **GREYSPACE WARRIOR** UNDER CAPTAIN HENSEN...

...THE **FALLEN ANGEL** UNDER LORD SCHEND...

...THE **HAND OF TINDALOS** UNDER COMMANDER LOWDER...

OH, **MY**...

IN ADDITION, I HAVE HIRED THE ELVEN FREEBOOTER *CHRYSALIS*...

ELVES! WHY, I HADN'T EVEN *THOUGHT* TO HIRE ELVES, THE *CLEVER* LITTLE MINX!

THE ILLITHID TRADER *OVERWATCH*...

...AND THE BEHOLDER NATION-SHIP... *HOLY ENFORCER*...

A *BEHOLDER* SHIP! THOSE MONSTERS ARE HALF *MAD* AND TWICE-*DEADLY*!

AYE, BATTEN 'ER DOWN AND PREPARE FOR EVASIVES, IF THIS TURNS UGLY...

ILLITHIDS? BEHOLDERS? BUT THEY'RE *ENEMIES*! WHY ARE *THEY* HERE!?

WORSE, LORD KAVAROS, LOOK!

...AND THE BEHOLDER NATION-SHIP *DEATH TO INFIDELS!*

TWO! YOU STUPID *FOOL*! THEY'LL *KILL* EACH OTHER! I MUST TELL ONE TO BACK OFF BEFORE THEY START FIGHTING. YES, *THAT'S* IT...

HRUMPH! *ATTENTION*, SHIPS, I'D LIKE THE ...ER ...*UNHUMAN* SHIPS TO BACK OFF A LITTLE SO WE CAN TALK...

LACKING SPECIFIC *INSTRUCTIONS* FROM YOU, I PROMISED *BOTH* BEHOLDER NATIONS THAT THEY COULD LEAD YOUR FLEET, AND YOU MAY NOW CHOOSE *BETWEEN* THEM.

CH-CH-*CHOOSE*?

"B-B-B-BUT IF I CHOOSE *EITHER* OF THEM, THE OTHER WILL..."

THE HUMAN SHOWS *WEAKNESS!* HE DOES NOT SEE THE OTHERS ARE *HEATHEN MONGRELS!*

"NO, NO, I JUST NEED A MOMENT TO..."

PREPARE THE ORBS FOR FIRING! *DEATH* BEFORE WE SERVE WITH A DEALER WITH HELLSPAWN *ABOMINATIONS!*

"I-I-I DIDN'T *SAY* I WAS..."

BEHOLDERS IN COMMAND! IT IS A *TRAP!* PREPARE ALL WEAPONS FOR *IMMEDIATE* FIRING!

"NO, WAIT, YOU'VE *GOT* TO LISTEN..."

HE'S *LOSING* IT, MATES, LET'S GET *GONE!*

PLEASE! JUST *LISTEN* TO MMEEEEARRRRGH!

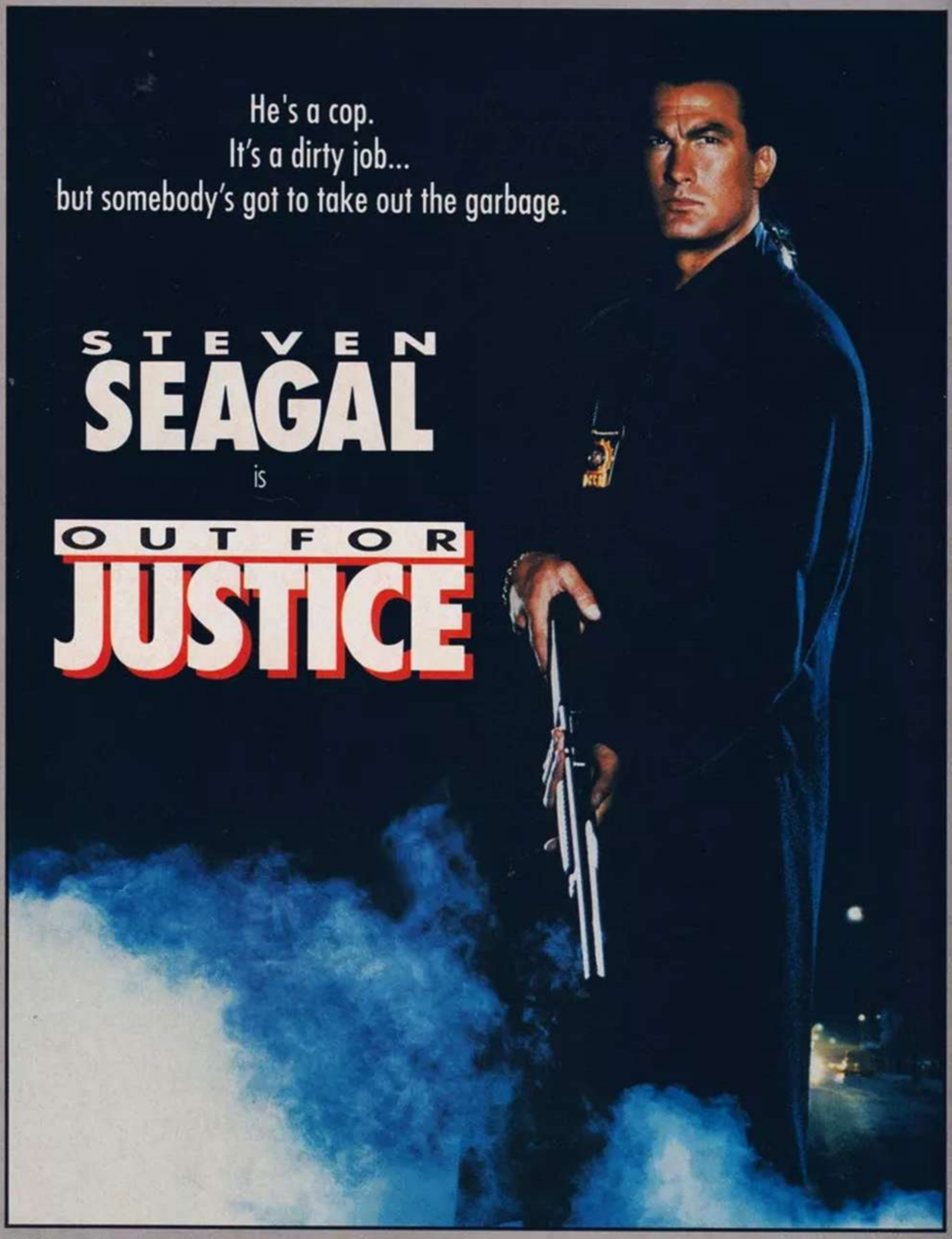
CHOOM!

FIRE THE HOLY *ORBS!*

BREZOOOW!

BOOOOM!

DEATH TO THE UNCLEAN MONGREL-DEALER!



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